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CLASSIFICATION SECRETCOUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

TITLE Military Activity in the Dessau - Rossau Area

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

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20 July 1954

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REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

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REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED
Information

1. Between 27 June and 4 July 1954, the water training sites in the Dessau-Aken area were still heavily occupied. Between 27 June and 2 July, little training was observed at all training sites. The construction of ferries and driving without load was practiced on 3 July. No bridges were constructed during the period under review.¹
2. Similar observations were made at the water training site southeast of Rossau. Between 1600 and 1900 on 27 June, about 35 trucks with engineer equipment returned from an exercise from the direction of

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3. After 3 July, the south section of the barracks installation in Rossau was again occupied to capacity by 800 to 1,000 soldiers. Elements of the tank unit appeared to have been absent for some time. At 1700 on 3 July, about 20 trucks with soldiers and billeting equipment entered the installation from the direction of Zerbst.

4. On 29 June, 6 armored personnel carriers, 2 armored scout cars, 4 repair shop trucks, 4 trucks and 3 boxcarloads of soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets were entrained at the Dessau railroad station. The unit had come from the barracks installation in Kochstedt. (3241) 4

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1. Comment. The following units are assumed to be stationed in this engineer training area of the Eighth Gds Army: the 19th Indep Engr Bn,

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the installation of which in Weimar-Buchenwald (8508) was vacant on 22 June according to another source; and, possibly, the three engineer battalions of the XXIX Gds Mtz Rifle Corps.

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The three engineer battalions of the XXVIII Gds Mtz Rifle Corps were probably stationed in this area between 3 May and 22 June. For information on the 880th Engr Bn, the 88th Gds Engr Bn of the 20th Gds Mech Div and the 45th Gds Engr Bn of the 39th Gds Mtz Rifle Div,

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This assumption is based only on the confirmed retransfer of the engineer battalion of the 20th Gds Mech Div and observations in the preceding year, during which the battalions of the different corps were rotated to the Dessau-Aken area successively.

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2. Comment.

the 35th Pon Bridge Regt conducted a river-crossing practice in the Barby area on 27 June.

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3.

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4. Comment. The shipment probably involved the 4th Gds Mtrcl Bn of the 7th Gds Tank Div from Kochstedt which presumably went to Letzling Heath.

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